

ANALYSIS OF THE ITEMS LISTED IN THE CIA MEMORANDUM  
OF JULY 24, 1957, AS EXAMPLES OF DOCUMENTS CONTAINING  
INFORMATION OF A SENSITIVE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE NATURE

The examples cited fall into 2 broad categories:

- A. Items which contain specific information regarding the intelligence personnel of the German Government or of other governments.
- B. Items, such as reports of German ambassadors abroad and political intelligence reports from a variety of sources, which do not have specialized counter-intelligence character.

Items in Category A containing specific significant counter-intelligence information.

1. Serial No. 26, frames 16 787 through 16 793, a document of 7 pages.

This is a report dated January 1937 from the German Legation in Oslo. The report has the heading "Russia's interests in Northern Norway on the basis of a journey up to the Finnish border in December 1936." It records talks with various persons in this region about the strong Russian interest in Northern Norway as reflected in flights by Russian planes over this region, the appearance of Soviet submarines in the waters nearby, and Russian espionage activities. On this latter subject the report lists names of Russians and Norwegians allegedly engaged in espionage in this area.

2. Serial No. 528, frames 238 407 through 238 449.



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3. Serial No. 971, frames 302 730 through 302 039 (the latter figure apparently should read 302 739) and 302 757 through 302 786.



25X1

4. Serial

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4. Serial No. 736, frames 267 072 through 267 081.



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5. Serial No. 2057, frames 44 749 through 44 760  
(apparently frames 447 749 through 447 760 were the  
ones intended).

The single document mentioned in this file is a report of the German Security Service regarding the Soviet Legation in Stockholm and its contacts, and lists Soviet diplomatic personnel and various alleged Soviet agents in Sweden.

Items in Category B containing reports not having significant specialized counterintelligence value.

1. Serial No. 36.



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It has been attested by various high officials of the Hitler regime that Hitler valued more highly the reports of agents and informants than those of the regular diplomatic representatives, and the marginalia on some of these documents show clearly the interest Hitler took in these particular reports. Indeed, no other file of this period contains so much direct evidence of how Hitler reacted to this kind of material. In other words, they are important documents for the historical record because of their impact on Nazi policy. Several documents from this serial have therefore been selected for publication in volumes XI and XII, Series D, Documents on German Foreign Policy, dealing with the period September 1940 to June 1941.

The memorandum

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2. Serial No. 40.

This file of some 300 pages contains further reports submitted by Rudolf Likus. The comment made regarding serial No. 36 applies to this serial as well.

3. Serial No. 47, frames 32 062 through 32 264.

This serial is a microfilm of one of the most politically important German Foreign Office files for the period of the Spanish Civil War -- the secret political file on Spain (pol geheim Spanien). At least 30 documents from this file are printed in volume III, Documents on German Foreign Policy, published in 1950. Three documents published in volume III -- Nos. 297, 386, and 390 -- are from the segment of 200 pages cited in the CIA memorandum as being of sensitive counterintelligence nature. One of them, No. 297, summarizes the value of deliveries made to Franco up to June 1937; No. 286 and No. 390 are reports of the German Ambassador in Spain -- No. 386 being a report on friction between a German Air Force general in Spain and the German agency charged with deliveries to Spain, No. 390 being an important evaluation of the military position and the probable duration of the Spanish war.

To say that the segment of the file cited deals "with Communist activity and agents in the Spanish Civil War" is misleading. This segment of the file, like the file in general, actually deals with a wide range of subjects of political significance, including such matters as recruitment of volunteers for service on Franco's side, German economic support of the Franco government, the concessions to be demanded in return, as well as highly important reports from the German Ambassador in Spain.

Two

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Two documents only, out of the 200 pages cited, deal with Communist activity and agents and have any possible counterintelligence interest. One is a document of 2 pages -- frames 32 062-63 -- regarding an individual alleged to be a Communist active in recruiting volunteers; and the other -- frames 32 261-64 -- names several individuals alleged to be involved in a plan of the military-political section of the Comintern to undermine the morale of Franco's troops.

4. Serial No. 891.

This German Foreign Office file of over 500 pages deals with various matters involving Abwehr operations in various parts of the world -- particularly the Iberian peninsula.

These particular documents are not of general historical interest, but the file contains other material which is of historical significance, and, it would appear, of much less sensitivity from the point of view of current counterintelligence interests. For example, the file contains the directive by Hitler of February 12, 1944, regarding the creation of a unified German intelligence organization under Himmler and memoranda and correspondence on the highest level on the relationship of the German Foreign Office to the intelligence agencies.

These matters are closely related to the struggle between the German military intelligence organization and the Reich Security Office dominated by Himmler and the SS, and the role of Admiral Canaris and his staff in the opposition to Hitler; and they are of great interest for the history of the last years of the Nazi regime in Germany.

5. Serial No. 138.

There are some 2,000 pages in this one item alone which is cited in its entirety in the memorandum [redacted]

[redacted] The file consists of a miscellaneous group of reports for the period 1942 and 1943 submitted by Rudolf Likus of the Dienststelle Ribbentrop and based on material supplied by informants in diplomatic and journalistic circles in Berlin and various other capitals -- e.g., Budapest. The reports cover a wide range of topics -- political currents in Spain, German-Japanese relations, the

political

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political situation in the Balkan countries, etc., as well as much gossip and speculation, some of it of a private and personal nature.

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Conclusion:

While a relatively few documents among the examples cited may have significant counterintelligence sensitivity, and some others may be border-line cases, the great majority, particularly of those in category B above, have no apparent counterintelligence relevance, but are of much importance for the historical record of Nazi foreign policy. It is most important that an agreement be reached between State and CIA that will protect necessary intelligence interests while making it possible for State to carry out its commitments.

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